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JRCS

JOHN REICH COLLECTORS SOCIETY
P.O. Box 135 Harrison, OH 45030

The purpose of the John Reich Collectors Society (JRCS) is to encourage the study of numismatics, particularly United States gold and silver coins minted before the introduction of the Seated Liberty design, and to provide technical and educational information concerning such coins.

Annual dues $15.00
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The **John Reich Journal** is the official publication of the Society and is distributed to all members in good standing. Members are encouraged to submit any articles encouraging the study of numismatics and / or relating to early United States gold and silver coins to the editors. Especially needed are articles containing new information about die marriages, die states of published die marriages, attribution methods, collections, collectors, etc.

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Cover Photos: Proof 1832 Overton-123 Half Dollar. Photographed with edge mirror. Proof only die marriage. Five known examples, two of which are impaired Proofs. Ex. Allenburger 3/23/48:880 and Bareford 10/22/81:386.

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Contents

Editors' Comments 2

Plaudits, Pans and Perplexing Points 4

A Remarriage for the 1818 Bust Quarter 5
by John W. McCloskey

A MS62 1835 LM-5.1 Half Dime by Gary Rosner 9

1827: It Was a Very Good Year by Jeffrey Oertel 11

Counterstamped Early Silver Dollars, An Update 15
by W. David Perkins, NLG

Bust Half Dime Census by Russell J. Logan 19

Counterfeit Half Dollars; News Update by Keith Davignon 23

Cataloging Your Collection by Stephen R. Turns 27

Capped Bust Half Dollar Dentil Anomalies by David Finkelstein 31

SCOT/REICH/KNEASS GOLD: Research on Variety 34
Rarity & Availability by Ken Cable-Camilleis

Stanley Kubacki by Stephen A. Crain 40

Treasurer's Report by Russell J. Logan ..... Inside Back

Editors' Comments

I am writing this on the three month anniversary of the attacks on the United States by the terrorists. Much has been written concerning the effect these acts of terror will have on our lives. I can't possibly begin to think that I can add anything of significance to what has been presented. With the approaching holiday season I can only hope for a rebirth of our resolve and hope for a better world in which to live and raise our children. My hope is that the lights of our Christmas trees, Advent Wreaths, and Chanukah Menorahs will light the way for a brighter future. May this millennium present the opportunity to resolve the differences in race and religion that divide the world. My hope is that each of you celebrates a wonderful holiday season and that numismatics may provide some relief from everyday distractions.

We have updated our Web site. The new address is: http://www.jrcs.org. The membership is encouraged to visit the site to see the improvements. We have listed the 350 articles published in **The John Reich Journal** since the club's inception. There is also a list of books written or edited by JRCS members complete with links where applicable. Your officers welcome suggestions for additional material for our website, and please let us know if we omitted any publications by JRCS members.

I am honored to again be able to announce the recipient of the *Jules Reiver Literary Award* for Volume 13 of the journal. The winner will add another plaque to his collection. He is a regular contributor to the pages of our journal and a dedicated researcher and good friend. I would like to congratulate Edgar Souders for his outstanding article **Capped Bust Half Dollar Secrets: The Lapping Process** which appeared in Volume 13 Issue 2 of the journal. I would like to encourage everyone to submit something to us for publication in a future issue of the journal. We plan to issue 14/2 in the Spring/Summer of 2002 prior to the ANA Convention. Your articles, comments and questions are welcomed for inclusion.

Many new members have joined the club in the last couple of years. We would like to remind them, and the established members, that there are still some back issues of the journal available for sale. Many issues have sold out, or are nearly sold out, so if you are interested in obtaining any for your library contact me for availability. They are still only $5 each postpaid. We are also still accepting sets for custom leather binding. The cost for the full leather binding including marbled end papers remains at $125 per book. The binding of the first ten volumes of the journal with indexes in each requires two bindings. Please contact me for more information and sample leather swatches if you are interested in having your set bound.

JRCS will have our annual meeting at the ANA in New York City. During the meeting we will have an educational presentation. Any member who has an interest in speaking at the convention should contact me concerning scheduling his presentation. We are always looking for new speakers willing to educate the membership on their favorite series of coins.

This year will mark my tenth anniversary as an editor of **The John Reich Journal**. The past decade has offered many opportunities for me in numismatics. I am thankful for the friendships that have developed through the years. The education we have received through the pages of the journal has improved with each year. This could only be achieved with the help and input from you, the membership. You make editing the journal a joy for me. You do all the hard work, I merely compile all your efforts into the magazine you receive in the mail three times each year. Keep up the good work, we all look forward to seeing the next group of articles for publication. With that in mind, I would like to present the current journal for your enjoyment. See you at FUN, Central States, the ANA, or anywhere else numismatists may congregate. Happy Holidays!

> *"America now is stumbling through the darkness of hatred and divisiveness. Our values, our principles, and our determination to succeed as a free and democratic people will give us a torch to light the way. And we will survive and become the stronger – not only because of a patriotism that stands for love of country, but a patriotism that stands for love of people."*
>
> Gerald R. Ford

BUST DIME CENSUS IS NEXT!!

Plan Ahead – Appearing in Issue 14-3

Bradley S. Karoleff, NLG

The John Reich Collectors Society wants you!

To recruit one new member to our organization, copy this membership application or direct them to our new website: http://www.jrcs.org.

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b ___ Draped Bust Half Dimes
c ___ Capped Bust Half Dimes
d ___ Draped Bust Small Eagle Dimes
e ___ Draped Bust Heraldic Eagle Dimes
f ___ Capped Bust Dimes
g ___ Draped Bust Quarter Dollars
h ___ Capped Bust Quarter Dollars
i ___ Flowing Hair Bust Half Dollars
j ___ Draped Bust Half Dollars
k ___ Capped Bust Half Dollars
l ___ Flowing Hair Bust Dollars
m ___ Draped Bust Dollars
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Back issues of **The John Reich Journal** are still available to members for $5.00 each postpaid. Visit the website for a complete listing of the issues in stock.

A Remarriage for the 1818 Bust Quarter

John W. McCloskey

For many years the objective of the serious Bust coin collector has been to obtain an example of all of the die varieties of a specific date in a series. Research work on these die variety collections has helped many collectors develop tools for identifying the emission order of coins with a common obverse or reverse. This striking order can be established by observing die characteristics such as die cracks, clash marks and other defects produced during the striking process. Studies of this type have given rise to the remarriage in early Bust coinage. During the early part of the 19th century a mint official selected an obverse and reverse die for use in striking a quantity of coins of a given denomination. The die pair would be removed from the press and placed in storage after the desired quantity of coins was struck at the mint. Each die could then be paired with other dies and used to strike additional coins of that denomination. A remarriage occurs if the same die pair was ever reunited to strike additional coins of the same variety after either of the dies had been used to strike coins between the two pairings of the same dies. The key to documenting a remarriage is to have early and late die state examples of one variety, together with a coin from a different variety that was struck between these two coins.

The 1818 Bust quarter had a total mintage of 361,174 pieces, the highest mintage for Bust quarters struck before 1831. There are ten known die varieties for this date struck from five different obverses and seven different reverses. Many of these varieties are readily available but several are scarce and difficult to obtain. The 1818 B-7 quarter described in the Browning reference to early Bust quarters is one of the scarce varieties for this date. The reverse of this variety can be identified by observing several key features of this die. It has the ME joined at the base, the end of the scroll is just a little to the left of the right edge of the first A in AMERICA and the left edge of the feathered shaft is over the center of the 2 in the denomination 25C. The obverse has the outside points of the 5th and 7th stars extending out toward the gap between two dentils and normal spacing in the dentils below the first 1 in the date.

Close-up of 1818 B7 early die state reverse die crack from dentil to N.

I was aware that the 1818 B-7 quarter was a scarce variety for this date so I purchased nice examples of this

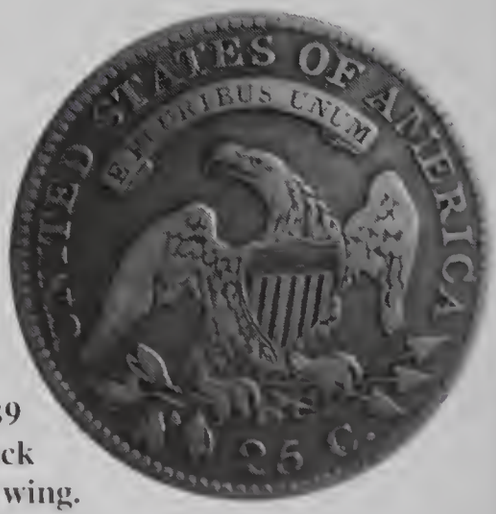
variety when they became available. Over a period of several years I was able to find four nice examples of the 1818 B-7 quarter. The emission order for these coins could be determined by observing the strength of a die crack that is visible on all of these coins. This crack runs from a dentil through the left upright of the N in UNITED and continues on to the eagle's wing. My four examples of this variety showed a progression in the strength of the crack providing clear evidence of the striking order of my four coins.

The 1818 B-9 quarter shares the same reverse with the 1818 B-7 quarter but it is the rarest of the ten die varieties of this date and difficult to obtain. I finally had the opportunity to purchase an example of this variety in 1995 and I immediately placed all of my coins with the common reverse side by side for examination. I was surprised to find that my example of the 1818 B-9 quarter fit in between my third and fourth examples of the 1818 B-7 quarter in striking order. This study thus provided clear evidence that a remarriage had occurred with 1818 B-7 quarters struck before and after 1818 B-9 quarters.

The deterioration of the 1818 B-7 reverse will be examined in greater detail so that other specimens can be properly placed into emission order. All of the examples of the 1818 B-7 quarter that I have seen have at least a very light crack in the area of the N in UNITED. A very light crack can be seen running from the lower part of a dentil, extending out into the field toward the upper left serif of the N. This crack then runs along the left upright of the N to the lower left serif of the N and out into the field toward the eagle's wing. The crack disappears in the field, never reaching the wing. The crack then widens and reaches out to the wing with the striking of additional coins of this variety. The crack is not yet as wide as the upright of the N through which it runs. At this point the die pair used to strike 1818 B-7 quarters was removed from the press with the completion of the production run.

The 1818 B-7 reverse was now paired with a different obverse to create the 1818 B-9 quarter. This obverse has three closely spaced dentils below the first 1 in the date and a die line that extends out into the field from the inside point of the 2nd star. The 1st, the 8th and the 13th stars are positioned so that their outside points extend out toward the gap between two dentils. Continued use of the reverse die widens its crack until it exceeds the width of the upright of the N. At this point the upper and lower serifs of the N extend out to the left of the crack to about the width of the crack itself.

Reverse of 1818 B7 early die state with small die crack.



Reverse of 1818 B9 with larger die crack from dentil to eagle's wing.

During the striking of the 1818 B-9 quarter the obverse die was badly clashed. The clash marks are so strong that you can clearly see the three arrow heads from the reverse outlined over the cap on the obverse of the coin. Two of the arrow heads can be seen over the cap just inside the dentils while the third runs underneath the 8th star. The remains of an incused, inverted C can also be seen just inside the dentils at 12 o'clock. The die crack through the N continues to grow, now reaching a width nearly equal to the upright of the I in UNITED. It should be noted that the two left serifs of the N still extend out to the left of the crack but not to the width of the crack itself. At this point the reverse shows a die defect that runs from a dentil down to the left side of the A in STATES. This is a very interesting die state for the B-9 quarter with the obverse clash marks still clearly visible on even well worn pieces.

Obverse of 1818 B9 with arrowheads clashed over the cap.

The final use of the reverse die was a remarriage with the obverse that was used to strike the 1818 B-7 quarters. This remarriage has resulted in some very late die state examples for the B-7 quarter and verifies that its two dies were mated a second time after the earlier use of this die pair. Examples of the 1818 B-7 remarriage are still quite rare but more are likely to be identified when collectors learn about the significance of late die state coins. To date I have seen only two examples of the late die state 1818 B-7 quarter. The first piece is owned by Mike Sherrill and it is in a die state nearly identical to the last pieces struck of the B-9 variety. But the piece that I own shows a progression of the die crack through the N on this reverse. Specifically the crack has expanded in the field below the left upright of the N to the extent that the lower serif of this letter is only a nub that barely extends out from under the left side of the die crack through the N.

Reverse of 1818 B9 with heavy die crack from dentil to eagle's wing.

Reverse of 1818 B7 late die state with heavy crack from dentil to eagle's wing.

A remarriage has been documented for the 1818 B-7 quarter through a detailed study of coins struck from its reverse. It is possible that an even later die state will be identified but the rarity of remarriage coins indicates that only a small quantity of these pieces were struck at the mint. I would be interested in hearing from other collectors who have had experiences with late die state examples of the 1818 B-7 quarter.

Close-up of 1818 B7 late die state reverse die crack from dentil to N.

I want to thank Rory Rea for the beautiful pictures of the coins that have appeared with this article. His excellent photographs have made it possible to present the analysis included in this article.

1818 B9 Early Die State

A MS62 1835 LM-5.1 Half Dime

Gary Rosner

At the time the book, **Federal Half Dimes 1792-1837** by Russell Logan & John McCloskey was written, the authors knew of only one example of the 1835 LM-5.1 Half Dime, and it was an EF (the one photographed in the book). When I recently was able to purchase a MS62 example of an 1835 LM-5.1 in a PCGS holder without a premium, you can say that I was very pleased. The LM-5.1 shares the Reverse CC with the LM-5.2 and LM-6. In Valentine terms these were the V-10 and V-9 respectively. These two varieties are the Large Date/Small 5C type for 1835. As noted in the book, this type seems to be slightly scarcer than the other three types for this year. My search for this type led me to the same conclusion.

First a little background to what lead up to my search for this variety. Before joining JRCS I had already begun to collect the Capped Bust Half Dimes from 1829-1837. What attracted me to the series was that within it's nine dates, you had a neat little collection of 14 coins. All you needed to included were the four varieties of 1835 (Large Date/Large 5C, Large Date/Small 5C, Small Date/Large 5C, and Small Date/Small 5C) and the Large 5C and Small 5C varieties of 1836 and 1837. I further decided that grades F12 through VF30 were a bargain at current prices. So after a few years I was down to only needing the 1835 Large Date/Small 5C variety. Therefore I was on the look out for a V-9 or V-10 (this was before the new book was out).

In February 2001, I found a VF20 V-9, LM-6 in an early die state with no reverse cracks. Along the way I really grew to appreciate the scarcity of the Large Date/Small 5C combination, so I decided to continue the hunt and find a V-10 example as well. By now the Half Dime book had come out therefore I knew the V-9 was a LM-6 and the V-10 would be a LM-5.1 or more likely a LM-5.2, with the easy to recognize reverse cud from D to S2.
One day this past September I received an email alerting me that the upcoming October Long Beach auction has an 1835 half dime, matching "My Wantlist", that I had set up with this auction company. Imagine my surprise when I clicked on the description and it was already attributed as a V-10. This is out of the ordinary since they don't seem to list the varieties on these lots. The scan on the website can be enlarged to show the details very well. With the half dime book it was very easy to tell this was the lesser known LM-5.1, and much nicer than the plate example.

When lot viewing was being held at the Long Beach convention, I examined the coin carefully and confirmed that it was the LM-5.1 and was a nice uncirculated example. It is in an old style PCGS holder graded MS62. The coin is very attractive and desirable. Since the lot was going to be sold while I was at work, I left a bid behind that would be equivalent to the coins retail value at the MS63 level. This was just in case someone had the "crack out game" in mind, which is always possible with these older style holders. That Friday night I

checked the auction results on the internet and I was very happy when it sold for half of the bid I had left behind. Obviously no one else had noticed this little gem. Saturday morning after attending the Society of Lincoln Cents meeting, I went down to the bourse floor and claimed my prize. Immediately I went over to my favorite bust coinage specialists' table to show him this surprise. Mark pulled out his book and started making notes about the additional attribution points we could see on this coin because of it's excellent state of preservation.

This Obverse 3 has star 11 with its' two upper outside points very strongly doubled. We were both amazed that this had not been noticed before on this obverse. There's a crack through the tops of 183 in the date. There's another crack from the top of the dentil directly across from S2, then down through S1, and ending at the bust. A third crack goes from the lower inside point of S12 to the bust.

The Reverse CC shows very clear repunching of T3 to the right. Again we were surprised this had not been noticed before, but maybe it disappears quickly and doesn't show on the LM-6 or LM-5.2? The LM-6 in my collection has a little crud around that area so I can't tell if T3 is repunched. For now I don't have a LM-5.2 to check. Another detail visible on the reverse of this coin is that almost every vertical shield line continues up through the horizontal lines, with many going up through four of the horizontal lines. Also a few vertical lines on the right extend far below the shield. Both of the cracks mentioned on the LM-6 are not evident yet on this example.

On page 76 of the half dime book the remarriage chart for the reverse CC shows the LM-5.1 precedes the LM-6 and then finally the LM-5.2. This mint state LM-5.1 and my VF20 LM-6 certainly reinforce this remarriage sequence. Now I'm going to search for a LM-5.2 for my collection to add to this very interesting die remarriage of capped bust half dimes.

Thanks go to Russ Logan for encouraging me to write an article about this coin and thanks to Bradley Karoleff for forwarding my initial email.

1835 LM-5.1 Heritage Signature Sale
Long Beach October 3-6, 2001 Lot 5877

1827: It Was a Very Good Year
(for bust half varieties)
Jeffrey Oertel

You would think that the lowly 1827 bust half would get more respect. Given the facts, I could envision collectors elbowing their way to the bourse tables to cry out, "Do you have any 1827 bust halves?" And if the answer were, "No, but I have...", the cherry pickers would then scramble over to the next table and repeat the same question.

Few coins demand that kind of popularity, but the facts concerning the 1827 bust half make this an attractive year at least for the variety collector. The 1827 is readily available, being sandwiched between the very collectible middle period of bust half production and the readily-available later period of 1830's bust halves. Any given 1827 might have a weak strike, strong strike, soft rims, full stars, die breaks and so on. A variety collector knows, however, that this is one coin that you do not search out by strong strike or clean surfaces. There just might be a weakly struck and homely R5 lurking in the junk box.

The number of die marriages (or varieties) for this year make things interesting. There are so many varieties for the year it is sometimes intimidating for all but the most savvy and experienced bust half collector to readily attribute and collect each variety. Even if one knows the varieties, just try to find them all. The forty nine known varieties (not to mention the sub-varieties) far outnumber most other years in quantity and rarity.

If one looks at the price guides, the 1827 is virtually the same price as the more common and far less interesting halves from the nine years that follow. Comparatively speaking, 1827 is brimming with scarce and rare marriages, unlike many other years.

The disproportionately high number of rare marriages makes the hunt very worthwhile. The only other year that comes close is 1809, which has five of the fifteen varieties in the R5 category, though none greater. The breakdown of the 1827 by rarity, is as follows:

R1	2
R2	6
R3	17
R4	15
R5	6
R6	1
R7	1
R8	1

In addition, there are a number of R4 and R5 sub-varieties (or die states).

Because attribution for 1827 bust halves is often time consuming and tedious, the chances of purchasing scarce or rare coins are quite good. Some of the busier or less specialized dealers will simply not go through the attribution process, as it takes more time and energy than they are willing to give. Just as important, when the variety is noted, the attribution is sometimes wrong. I have looked at many halves that were incorrectly attributed. Perhaps someone quickly zeroed in on one key feature and ignored the subtle differences between two different marriages. Defect lines left of the date are a give-away clue to the relatively common O120, for example, but the same obverse die was also used on the exceedingly rare O149. Consequently, finding one of these obverse dies is virtually always a let down.

When it comes to cherry picking, there are some bust half nuts that know virtually all (if not all) varieties by memory. I cannot remember if I locked my back door on the way to work, so I am not likely to cherry pick some lowly R5 from a dealer's inventory. There were times on a bourse floor where I, without my Overton book, thought an R5 was in hand. More often than not, I added an R2 or R3 duplicate to my collection. I also likely passed up a few of the rare ones in the process.

In the past several years, there have been a number of "discovery coins" on the auction block, including several R7's. Imagine finding a beat up 1827 half in someone's "junk box" for $30 which you then auctioned off for $10,000! As noted in Russell Logan's article, *"Stop the Press: 1827 O148"* (**John Reich Journal** whole number 40, pp 28-32), four of the twelve known examples of this rare variety were "discovered" in the past five years.

Adding to the complexity and intrigue in hunting for the rare ones, there are many varieties that are not available, or are very rare, in uncirculated condition. These include many R3 and R4's. Not counting the varieties rarer than R4, nor the sub-varieties, there are fewer than a handful of mint state examples known to exist for the following die marriages dated 1827:

Overton Number	Rarity	Overton Number	Rarity
110	4-	129	4 -
111	4	130	3
112	3	134	4
113	4-	136	4
114	3	138	4
118	3	139	4
119	3	140	4 +
121	3	142	3

editors' note: *See **John Reich Journal** whole number 36, pp 6-11 for the current rarity ratings for the Capped Bust series.*

As noted previously, many dealers do not go through the effort of determining the relative rarity of a later date mint state bust half, especially one that is noted in Overton as an R3. The astute collector, however, may discover that the coin in MS61 is the finest known for that die marriage and worth a premium.

So, on with the hunt. There are relatively few R1's and R2's, eight to be exact. A strategy for those collectors with a limited memory (such as mine) could simply be remembering the common ones by sight and buying anything else that is selling at the base price. Otherwise, with book in hand, or with photographic memory turned on, the process can be streamlined by knowing specific attribution points.

editors' note: *For more information on specific attribution points see* ***The Ultimate Guide to Attributing Bust Half Dollars*** *by Glenn R. Peterson, MD.*

Perhaps the two curl base varieties are probably the easiest of all the varieties to identify or remember. The variety with the "I" of PLURIBUS right of the "T" in STATES is the rarer of the two, an R4.

Another set of easy ones would be the 7 over 6 over-dates. All of them command a slight premium, but the drawn 13 stars on the O103 are a giveaway clue to the rarest of the group.

After this, it get tougher. Everyone with experience has his own personal method of attribution. Mine is based on targeting the variety with the least amount of time expended. Most often a magnifying glass is not necessary.

The following clues are listed in the order that I generally use, which might be of some use to others:

1. Determine the position of the "I" in PLURIBUS relative to the "T" in STATES on the reverse.
2. Determine the position of the "E" relative to the "D" on the left side, and the "A" relative to the "M" on the right side.
3. Determine whether the dentils on the reverse is very weak or flat.
4. Determine if the stars are flat or sharp, and which ones are flat.
5. Determine the relative distance of specific stars from the bust on the obverse, usually stars 1,7,8 and 13.

About 95% of the time, after I have gone through this process, I have figured out the attribution. After this I need a magnifying glass to identify the detail items noted in Overton. By this time, fortunately, the hunt is down to a select few die marriages.

In some cases the differences between each variety are subtle. Currently, with the Internet revolution, it is possible to cherry pick on line. Looking at an image on eBay and identifying the variety can be tough, but the attribution process is possible. It just takes time.

On the web, I have found it is far easier to attribute a half than to determine if it has been cleaned. Unfortunately, one can hide the cleaned surfaces on a coin for sale by working with the photograph or the coloration on the jpg file. An attractive photo can be coupled with a seller misstating the originality or unknowingly stating that the coin has "original surfaces", "mint luster", or "original toning". Alas, buying coins on the Internet can supply enough material for an entire JRCS Journal, but that is another story.

In the mean time, don't be surprised if you notice someone scouring the bourse tables for every bust half dollar available, regardless of condition, with the date of 1827.

It was a very good year.

Counterstamped Early Silver Dollars, An Update

W. David Perkins, NLG

A couple of very good articles have been written in the past on counterstamped early U.S. silver dollars (1794-1803), both by *JRCS* member Robert Stark. One was a paper for the ANS Coinage of the Americas Conference (COAC), October 30, 1993, titled "America's Silver Dollars." Stark's COAC paper, titled "Countermarked and Overstruck Early U.S. Dollars," listed many counterstamped early dollars, a number that were not listed in Dr. Gregory Brunk's book *American and Canadian Countermarked Coins*. Stark's paper on counterstamped early dollars, as well as all of the other proceedings from this conference, is available from the ANS or numismatic booksellers in a book titled *America's Silver Dollars* (edited by John M. Kleeberg).

Robert Stark also authored "Countermarks on Early U.S. Dollars" in the *John Reich Journal*, Volume 8, Issue 1, October 1993, pp. 27-39.

In addition to the Brunk book and the two articles by Robert Stark, Russell Rulau's *Standard Catalog of United States Tokens 1700-1900* (Krause Publications) lists a number of counterstamped early silver dollars.

Following is a list (that I have compiled) of counterstamped early dollars not found in Brunk or Robert Stark's two previous articles (or a new appearance of a specimen that was included in their research):

1. **JOHN Q. HOUTS / LAS VEGAS, N.M. / 1870** counterstamp on a Very Good 1796 B-4 silver dollar. (*John Reich Journal*, Volume 13, Issue 3, July 2001, pp 39-40).

2. **W. PERKINS** counterstamp on obverse of a Very Fine 1795 B-5 silver dollar. Acquired for my collection at 2000 ANA Convention in Philadelphia from dealer Jonathan Kern. This is probably William Perkins, unfortunately a common name in the 1700-1800s.

3. **1793** counterstamp on an extremely rare 1795 B-10 silver dollar. Tim Toy acquired this from an e-Bay auction in April 2001. (*John Reich Journal*, Volume 13, Issue 3, July 2001, pp 32-33).

4. *Update* on Brunk #54680, **WG & Co. / 4/9** c/s on a 1795 B-1 silver dollar, page 330 in the First Edition of the Brunk book: This is the same specimen plated in Brunk (obverse). This specimen was sold in Noble Numismatics Pty. Ltd. *The W. J. Noble Collection Sale of British Tokens* No. 158 Part B, July, 1998:1607. It was estimated at

$8000 (Australian dollars I believe). It sold for $10,800 (Australian).

Noble cataloged this lot as follows: "Renfrewshire, Greenock, William Gowans' four shillings and ninepence, a U.S.A. silver dollar, 1795, flowing hair type (Bolender-1, a correct attribution) countermarked WG & Co. 4/9 underneath in an indented T Shape (Davis 140).

5. **G. EOFF** counterstamp on a 1799 silver dollar. I have not viewed this coin personally, but the lot and a photo were posted on e-Bay for a sale ending April 28, 2001 (e-Bay item # 1426173340). Garrett Eoff was an active silversmith (in 1799). This specimen sold for $797.77.

6. **GEE** counterstamped on the reverse of a very rare 1798 B-20 silver dollar. Ex. B&M *Burke & Clemente* sale, May 1994:3109. It was plated in the catalog (in black and white).

7. **B. COLLINS** and **US** counterstamped on an 1800 B-18 silver dollar. Ex. B&M *Norweb* sale, Part III, November 1988:3764. It was graded VF-30. It realized $550.

8. On May 19, 1994 I viewed a **Houck's Panacea** counterstamp on a 1795 B-5 silver dollar. It is in the Smithsonian collection. It is ex. Chase Manhattan Bank collection (#01394). It grades EF or so.

9. Kagin's *GENA* sale (#325), September, 1981:1338 was a 1798 Large Eagle silver dollar, holed at 12:00 with **1776** counterstamp.

10. **E. D. D.** counterstamp on a very rare 1799 B-22 silver dollar, graded EF-45. Ex. B&M *Aspen* sale August 1989:386. This lot realized $577.50.

11. **PB** (stamped in an oval) counterstamped (on ear of Liberty) on a 1799 B-21 silver dollar. Ex. B&R *Roy Harte* sale, January 1983:1340. It realized $247 (in 1983). This specimen is plated in the sale catalog.

12. **UNION JACK** counterstamped (on neck) on a rare 1798 B-1 "13 Star" silver dollar, graded F-VF. Ex. James Kelly sale, August, 1956:1524. I do not have a copy of this sale catalog (the lot is plated in the catalog). It realized $60 in this sale.

13. *Coin World* (International), Monday, January 1, 2001, page 95 shows an obverse photo of a 1799 (mislabeled as a 1798) silver dollar c/s with a portrait of **George III**.

14. *Numismatic News* November 21, 2000 (article by Russell Rulau) had an obverse photo and a story on an 1800 (probably B-14 "Dotted Date" die marriage) counterstamped **FORCE**. Rulau states that this may have been the mark of NY silversmith Jabez W. Force.

15. Miller's Mint advertised a 1795 silver dollar (graded F-12) in Numismatic News (I noted at least three advertisements for this same specimen, advertised between December 28, 1999 and April 4, 2000) with **S. W. RUSSELL** counterstamp, holed above E in LIBERTY. It was offered at $675.

16. **BRATTLE HOUSE** counterstamp on a 1796 silver dollar. This was offered on e-Bay in November, 1999. I don't know if it sold. The c/s is across LIBERTY's chest and extends under (and touching) the chin towards star 10. It is holed at about 5:00 on the obverse (to right of 6 in date) and correspondingly 1:00 reverse (between STATES and OF).

17. **S. C. Kingman** counterstamp on a rare 1798 B-4 "Knob 9" silver dollar. I viewed and studied this specimen. Jonathan Kern advertised it at $770. Jonathan called it EF-40. An article was written (on Kingman) by Jess Patrick titled "Who Was S. C. Kingman?" in B&M *The Coin Collector*, issue #67. Patrick made a reference that this was not listed in Brunk (which it was not).

18. **L. BAILEY** counterstamp (rectangular Hallmark) counterstamp on a 1795 Draped Bust silver dollar. Ex. B&M Donovan & Hudgens sale, November, 1993:3114. It realized $825.

19. **STROHECKER** counterstamp on obverse and reverse of a 1796 silver dollar F-VF. Ex. B&M *Donovan & Hudgens* sale, November, 1993:3241. It realized $715. Bowers cataloged it as Brunk # 38780.

20. *Numismatic News*, March 4, 1996 has a story on a Spink & Son auction sale on March 5, 1996. It shows the obverse photo of a 1798 B-1 "13 Star" silver dollar with octagonal **George III** counterstamp on LIBERTY. It was offered as lot 87 in this sale, and was estimated a L$6,000-8,000. I don't have the price realized.

The following specimens were all offered in Bowers and Merena September, 1985 *Four Memorable Collections* sale (Van Ormer counterstamp collection):

21. Lot 2596 **M. E. COFFIN** on the obverse and reverse of a VG 1797 B-1 silver dollar, graded VG. It realized $154.

22. Lot 2695 **HOUCK'S PANACEA** on a 1795 silver dollar. It realized $2,200.

23. Lot 2696 **HOUCK'S PANACEA** on a Fine 1800 silver dollar. It realized $2,200. Ex. Fuld collection.

24. Lot 2712 **H. JONES / 1854 / Patent / B** on a Fine (holed) 1795 silver dollar. It realized $418.

25. Lot 2850 **L.L. SQUIRE / N-YORK** on the obverse of a VF 1795 silver dollar, with **L.L. SQUIRE / J.MERITT / N-YORK** on the reverse. It realized $2,420.

26. Lot 2883 **T. C.** in a silversmith-type punch twice on the obverse and once on the reverse of an 1802 silver dollar, Very Fine. It realized $220.

27. Lot 2885 **W.V.THRALL** three times on obverse of an AG-G (holed) 1800 silver dollar. It realized $121.

I encourage JRCS members to submit new counterstamps to the *John Reich Journal*, or to me c/o the *Journal*. Each counterstamp is a clue as to when and where the early dollars circulated. Additionally, I am interested in corresponding with the owner of the 1798 silver dollar with **GEE** counterstamp (**GEE** counterstamp on the reverse of a very rare 1798 B-20 silver dollar. Ex. B&M *Burke & Clemente* sale, May 1994:3109).

Condition Census – Bust Half Dimes 1792-1837

Russell J. Logan

Thirteen years ago this month, the JRCS published its first Capped Bust half dime census. The best collection had 86 of the 89 known die marriages (only the '29 LM-11 and the '30 LM-11 remained to be discovered) with an average grade of 44. Two of the top three collections today were not represented in 1988. A lot has changed in the discipline of Federal half dime collecting: a new reference book, the discovery and documentation of 31 remarriages in the Capped Bust series, and the constant auctions available throughout the internet.

Everyone I talked with regarding this census asked how I was going to format it: Was it going to list remarriages? Was it going to cross reference to Valentine numbers? Was it going to be a census by die marriage or by collection? Was it going to include the pre-Turbans under the same chart as the Capped Bust? I never answered these questions because I did not know how the membership would format their holdings. As it turned out, those collectors who don't collect by remarriage, don't often describe which remarriage they own, and those collectors who collect by the Red Book, don't describe the die marriage! So it's almost by default, we have a census by collection without regard to the remarriage. And I broke the pre-Turbans and the Capped Bust into two separate sections, as very few individuals seemed to collect both by die marriage.

The rarity ratings of the new book were used exclusively except when they seemed totally out of whack as with the 1833 LM-2. Although still rare, this die marriage appeared twice on e-Bay during the past six months, and is no longer a R-7. The next die marriage to fall from the ranks of R-7 will be 1830 LM-11. I know of nine examples, ranging in grade from G-6 to AU-55; how this die marriage remained "undiscovered" until 1997 is a total mystery to the numismatic fraternity.

For the next Capped Bust half dime census, I anticipate listing all the specific remarriages along with a generic listing for each remarriage. In this fashion, I hope to satisfy all those who collect by die remarriage and those who don't. In the meantime Bust dimes are next, so please forward your census to Brad for inclusion in Volume 14 Issue 3.

December, 2001

	LM	V	R#	359	727	06	329	30	323	326	888	962	03	12	PCS	AVG	MAX
1792	1	1	3	50		15	20								3	28	50
1794	1	1	6	55	53	20	20		55	4					6	35	55
	2	2	5	55	50	15	30					25			5	35	55
	3	3	4	58	55	50	40	55							5	52	58
	4	4	4	50	40	50	50				8				5	40	50
1795	1	1	6	58	50		40		64						4	53	64
	2	10	7	63	55	35									3	51	63
	3	2	5	60	55	40	20			7					5	36	60
	4	3	6	60	50	12	35		55						5	42	60
	5	9	6	53	50	20			30						4	38	53
	6	7	6	55	50	30	20		30						5	37	55
	7	8	6	40	20	40	45		20						5	33	45
	8	5	3	60	40	50	45								4	49	60
	9	6	4	61	30	30	20								4	35	61
	10	4	3	63	50	45	50	58					15		6	47	63
1796	1	1	3	62	50	40	55	15			6	40			7	38	62
	2	3	6	62	55	30	40	8	40	6	12				8	32	62
1797	1	2	3	55	45	40	40	50		10	6				7	35	55
	2	4	4	55	55	55	60	12			4				6	40	60
	3	3	5	58	50	6	20								4	34	58
	4	1	6	60	53	30	15	25	30		6				7	31	60
1800	1	1	3	55	50	45	45	30			12		40		7	40	55
	2	2	7	50	40	20									3	37	50
	3	3	4	50		30	30	30	40	20		40		2	8	30	50
	4	4	7	30	20					15					3	22	30
1801	1	3	7	4	4	20				4					4	8	20
	2	1	4	63	55	40	45	50	30	4			40		8	44	63
1802	1	1	5	45	40		6								3	30	45
1803	1	3	6	60	60	40	20	20	45						6	41	60
	2	1	4	61	55	15	45	55		8					6	40	61
	3	2	3	55	40	30	45			30				5	6	34	55
1805	1	1	4	50	45	12	30	35	30	20				10	8	29	50
Coins Owned				32	30	29	27	13	12	11	7	3	3	3	**32 Known**		
Average Grade				54	46	31	34	34	41	12	8	35	32	6			

	LM	V	R#	323	03	15	326	06	02	66	888	199	329	824	048	01	12	843	PCS	AVG	MAX
1829	1	7	2	63	55	40	55	60	45	50	58	45	62	45	4	45	55	64	18	50	64
	2	3	1	50	55	40	55	50	45	30	25	45	63	40		45	45	64	16	47	64
	3	2	2	61	50	40	58	45	45	45	50	30	50	8	15	55	55	64	22	42	64
	4	13	3	55	55	55	58	55	40	40	40	40	63			30	50		14	45	63
	5	6	1	50	55	50	55	50	30	15	8	50	62	40	10	50	40	65	18	43	65
	6	5	5	64	63	55	58	45	45	25	25	40	64	50	50			62	14	46	64
	7	4	4	64	50	50	58	50	40	25	25	45	63		12	60	45	60	19	43	64
	8	17	7	40	55	55	25			50									5	45	55
	9	11	5	50	55	45	53	50	40	50	50	45		20		45			15	40	55
	10	16	5	50	50	45	63	15	45	40	25	40	63	20	45	40			14	42	63
	11	18	6	30	55	40	53	40	60	45		50							8	47	60
	12	10	6	40	60	40	40	15	40	45	40		55	15	8	45			14	34	60
	13	12	1	63	55	50	62	60	40	45	40	45	60	50	10	25	35		19	44	63
	14	9	4	50	60	60	55	12	45	12	8	40		40	10	30		53	14	35	60
	15	8	4	55	55	55	40	35	40	10	12	8	45	20	15	50	12	45	15	33	55
	16	14	2	64	50	58	62	55	40	25	8	55	60	40	50	40	12		15	44	64
	17	15	4	64	60	55	50	30	40	40	50	30	64			45		65	15	47	65
	18	1	5	63	55	58	58	35	30	40	30	45	62	12		45		45	16	46	63
1830	1	10	4	62	55	45	63	60	40	40	12	40	64	35	30		45	63	15	46	64
	2	9	3	50	50	50	55	55	50	12	40	40	64	30	25	30	25		16	42	64
	3	8	2	60	50	40	53	40	45	60	50	30	65	30	30	45	45	64	18	48	65
	4	3	2	58	60	50	59	50	20	45	50	40	63	45	8		60	63	17	45	63
	5	13	7	30	55	35	6	60		45									6	39	60
	6	4	5	55	60	45	45	20	25	8	8		58	8					11	34	60
	7	7	2	63	45	50	58	50	35	45	25	55	62	20	12	50	50	63	19	45	63
	8	6	1	60	50	45	58	60	35	8	25	45	64	40	6	40	45	64	19	40	64
	9	5	4	63	65	60	50	55	40	30	25	55	45	40	15			62	16	47	65
	10	12	6	40	50	30	55	20	63										7	40	63
	11	14	7	12	35	45	15					50							5	31	50
	12	11	4	64	50	45	50	60	40	30	25	58	62	45	45		40	64	18	46	64
	13	2	3	60	60	55	50	45	35	10	10	40	60	30	45	45	30	62	18	45	62
	14	1	3	63	50	50	58	45	35	45	12	45	65	40	8	50	35	64	18	43	65
1831	1	6	1	62	60	55	58	60	45	40	25	55	63	30		30	45		16	46	63
	2	7	3	65	55	40	58	45	40	40	25	45	62	40	30	40	40	63	19	45	66
	3	2	4	65	50	50	55	60	45	15	25	45	64	40	45		40		17	44	65
	4	4	2	50	60	50	61	45	25	40	12	40	65	45	12	40	35		15	41	65
	5	5	1	60	55	40	50	60	35	45	40	45	55	25		30	50	63	17	45	63
	6	1	1	64	50	55	62	60	20	25	50	55	63	30	25	40	40	66	18	48	66
	7	3	2	62	50	60	50	60	50	45	40	40	60		10	45		63	15	48	63
1832	1	10	4	58	45	40	40	50	45	63	63		62	12		55		55	14	46	63
	2	3	3	50	60	48	50	50	45	30	12	45	55	40	30	55	50	58	18	45	60
	3	1	1	62	55	40	55	65	40	6	50	50	62	50	60	50	63	63	19	53	65
	4	12	4	60	50	55	58	60	45	50	25	45	63	45	50	50	40	64	20	48	64
	5	8	1	64	60	45	58	60	55	12	10	45	64	45	40	40	40	63	19	47	64
	6	11	4	64	50	45	55	30	50	10	12	12	60	25		25			15	35	64
	7	9	2	64	55	40	55	60	30	50	10	30	63	45	50	45	50	63	20	47	64
	8	5	3	62	60	40	58	60	50	50	25	45	58	25	20	45	45	63	20	46	66
	9	14	7	15	60	60	45	40	50		10			4					8	36	60

	LM	V	R#	323	03	15	326	06	02	66	888	199	329	824	048	01	12	843	PCS	AVG	MAX
1832	10	13	3	62	55	50	63	60	30	25	50	20	62		12	50	15	64	17	43	64
	11	4	5	65	45	30	58	40	50	10	12	20	63		12	40			13	37	65
	12	2	2	63	50	45	58	50	45	25	58	50	60	40	12	40	50	64	18	46	64
	13	6	3	62	55	50	61	55	45	50	25	50	45	30	10		20	61	16	42	62
	14	7	4	63	50	45	58	35	35	45	25	50	60	12	35		35	63	15	41	63
1833	1	7	3	63	55	50	58	50	40	25	40	45	62	20	15		40	64	20	46	64
	2	9	6	55	45	30	35	60	50		12				10				10	35	60
	3	4	2	63	60	50	55	65	45	12	25	60	63		50	30	30	64	16	47	65
	4	3	2	60	60	50	55	40	55	50	40	50	61	20	45			30	16	45	61
	5	10	8	20	63	55													3	46	63
	6	8	6	50	60	45	50	50	35	50	10		63						11	45	63
	7	5	2	64	55	40	58	50	30	12	6	55	58	20	15	25	25	63	17	38	64
	8	2	3	62	40	45	58	40	40	4	25	40	45	45	25			62	15	40	62
	9	6	2	62	55	45	55	60	45	55	25	45	55	55	40	40	50	63	21	50	64
	10	1	1	61	55	55	55	60	30	45	25	35	62	20	60	40	40	63	18	43	63
1834	1	5	2	62	55	40	58	55	45	25	25	45	63	18	15	50	35	63	18	42	63
	2	1	1	63	55	40	55	50	45	60	40	60	60	20	35	40	55	63	20	47	63
	3	2	3	50	60	55	50	60	40	8	40	40	60	30	20		10	63	15	41	63
	4	4	1	62	55	40	58	60	40	25	50	40	64	60	60	30	50	63	20	49	64
	5	3	3	63	55	40	55	40	45	20	40	40	60			30		63	13	45	63
1835	1	2	2	62	55	45	55	55	45	30	50	30	55	45		45	30	64	17	43	64
	2	8	4	64	50	45	58	60	15	45	8	30	64	12	10	40			16	36	64
	3	3	1	63	50	40	58	60	45	50	25	55	63	50	40	40	40	64	21	46	64
	4	11	3	63	60	45	58	50	35	40	50	45	61	40		40	25	64	18	50	64
	5	10	3	62	55	50	55	50	30	40	25	30	55	53	25	45	50	62	21	47	63
	6	9	2	60	50	50	40	60	50	25	40	55	60	8		30	30		17	40	60
	7	4	3	64	55	40	50	50	25	40	25	35	60	20	40			63	17	44	64
	8	5	2	58	55	50	55	50	40	12	25	50	55	45	12	30	45	64	23	42	64
	9	6	2	58	55	40	45	45	50	40	25	30	63		8	55	8	63	17	39	63
	10	7	1	55	55	45	50	63	30	50	12	45	63	12	15	45	63	63	25	43	63
	11	1	4	61	50	55	45	50	40	12	50	45	50	20	35	50	60		19	42	61
1836	1	5	5	55	65	45	55	55	50	25	8	50		40	50		25	65	16	46	65
	2	1	3	55	50	45	55	50	40	50	40	50	63	40	10		10	55	17	45	63
	3	4	1	62	60	40	55	50	45	50	40	40	63	12	8	55	40	64	21	43	64
	4	2	2	55	50	50	58	55	25	10	8	50	60	12	6		40		16	35	60
	5	6	2	62	50	50	50	63	25	30	12	50	55	40	60	50	45	63	21	45	63
	6	3	3	58	40	30	55	65	50	30	62	40	64	40	10	45	50		18	45	65
	7	7	4	60	60	50	50	50	35	40	12	12	60	20	40	50	55		17	43	60
1837	1	3	1	61	55	40	55	45	40	10	40	45	55	20	60	40	45	63	22	40	63
	2	4	5	30	50	55	40	40	40	10	12	20		12		50	20		14	30	55
	3	5	6	40	50	40	30	35	50	30	12	30				45	50		13	34	50
	4	2	3	63	55	45	50	50	20	25	25	45	62	25	15	45	35	63	22	40	64
	5	1	1	63	50	63	53	50	30	12	20	50	63	30	20	45	50	63	18	43	63
Coins Owned				91	91	91	90	88	87	86	85	81	78	73	67	65	64	61	91 Known		
Average Grade				57	54	47	53	50	40	32	28	42	60	31	26	42	40	62			

Counterfeit Half Dollars; News Update

Keith Davignon

Article from the Richmond (Virginia) Enquirer, Friday, August 18,1826.

Norfolk, July 29

"*Counterfeit Half Dollars.*— The publick are cautioned, in receiving *Eagle Half Dollars*, to examine them particularly, as many spurious ones are in circulation. One was shewn to us yesterday, so well executed that had it been offered to us in the ordinary transactions of business; we should not have hesitated to receive it. They are however, not much heavier than genuine *quarters*, and the edge is *entirely smooth*, a circumstance which is not readily observed by persons off their guard.-[*Beacon*."

When I published the book, **Contemporary Counterfeit Capped Bust Half Dollars** in December of 1996, I knew that this was really a work in progress. It was clear that I had seen a large enough sample to have discovered all of the common varieties, but was certain that there were many unique, or at least scarce, varieties yet to be uncovered. To say that the last five years have proven this true would be a tremendous understatement!

The 1996 book lists 187 different varieties (the reason I don't use the term die marriages is that many bogus halves were cast rather than die struck). Since that time I have positively identified another 78 for a new total of 265, a total which will be surpassed as you read this, as new finds continue to pour in!

The following are some notable "updates":

Four dates previously unknown as bogus halves have surfaced; 1807 (1/A), 1808 (1/A,2/B, and a 3rd piece in the ANS Collection which has yet to be attributed), 1810 (1/A), and 1811 (1/A and 2/B). (If anyone out there has the 1807, please send me a photo.)

1808 1/A

1810 1/A

1811 1/A

Riddell's 1845 **Monograph of the Silver Dollar** listed 38 varieties of contemporary counterfeit Capped Bust Halves. I had rediscovered examples of 19 of those by the time of publication of the bogus book in 1996. Six new Riddell varieties have been found in the last five years:

1826 2/B, or R-448	1829 3/C, or R455	1833 9/I, or R-461
1833 10/J, or R-462	1836 2/B, or R-469	1836 3/C, or R-470

1833 10/J, or Riddell 462

It has also been brought to my attention that I had omitted one of the Riddell coins, R-474, which I have since assigned the variety designation 1838 16/Q.

Another interesting discovery in the last few years was that a specimen of the 1835 6/F was found. This variety had been illustrated on page 44 of Taxay's **Counterfeit Mis-struck and Unofficial US Coins**, but only the obverse was pictured, and the variety was only known to exist from this illustration. An actual piece has finally been found, so that we now have a picture of Reverse F:

1835 6/F from Taxay, page 44

One of the most fascinating new finds was a blank copper planchet with a lettered edge. It is likely, though not confirmed, that this planchet was intended to become an 1823 1/A, or the infamous J47 "non-pattern" listed in the Judd pattern book. It is the only unstruck bogus planchet that I am aware of, and it proves that this particular counterfeiter lettered his/her edges prior to striking, as was done with genuine coins at the Mint. This also adds fuel to the debate as to whether Mint employees, or well-established token/medal manufacturers with access to the types of tools required for quality planchet and die production, were involved in the illegitimate production of some of the better contemporary counterfeits.

Copper planchet with lettered edges

Probably the single most important new find was that of an actual contemporary counterfeit obverse die. A bogus 1831 obverse die was found by a BHNC member, which matched a fairly common counterfeit variety, the 1831 3/C. The discovery of this die also casts some doubt as to whether the unique lead uniface die trial illustrated on page 47 of my 1996 book is truly contemporary, or was made more recently from this surviving die.

Contemporary counterfeit obverse die dated 1831, used to coin the variety 1831 3/C

A chapter of my book was dedicated to debunking all of the bogus coins which have been offered both in the past and the present as genuine US Mint patterns or die trials. Clearly the people at Heritage have yet to read it, as the infamous 1832 struck on Brazilian 80 Reis Copper (page 46 of bogus book) made another appearance as lot 5450 at the *Heritage Long Beach Signature Sale* in June, 1998. This time it was touted as a genuine die trial or "set-up piece". After receiving several letters prior to the sale informing them of the true nature of the coin, Heritage took no action to remove it from the sale. It sold for $5,610, and was later returned for a refund when the buyer learned it was bogus by having someone point out the story about it in my book. I'm glad to have saved a fellow collector from being ripped off. (I'll take my reward in genuine coins, please). Another similar story is more recent, as an 1832 (3/B) copper bogus showed up on e-Bay as a US Mint pattern and was sold for the bargain price of around $300. Since then the buyer has realized his mistake and is attempting to build a case for a refund. As much as I criticize Heritage for continuing to accept consignments that any numismatist knows is a fake, at least they will take it back when called on it. Good luck getting e-Bay to support the case of a buyer seeking recourse on a fake or altered coin.

Another type of news update is that Steve Herrman, keeper of the BHNC census, has begun a census of bogus bust halves. This census is open to the participation of non-BHNC members as well. As some people are sensitive about advertising that they possess counterfeits, the census does not list names or individual holdings, but instead is a listing of all of the varieties owned by the participants of the survey. Duplicates are invited, and total quantities listed so that relative rarities can be compared. The grade of the finest known piece is also listed and will be updated as new finds are added. I thank Steve for his efforts, and urge all of you who have not done so to e-mail a list of your holdings to him at: herrman102@aol.com. Over time this census could become a valuable resource to those interested in the study of bogus halves. Trust me, this is not a Secret Service sting!

On November 7, 1998, The American Numismatic Society (ANS) held their 14th **Coinage of the Americas Conference** in New York City on the subject of contemporary counterfeit coins. Brad Karoleff and I were invited to present a paper on counterfeit bust halves. We pooled our efforts and presented a paper which was, in effect, a revision and expansion of the 1996 book minus the catalog of variety descriptions and photos. Brad wrote a new chapter which described in great detail the socio-economic/ historical context of the time period which spawned the bogus halves. He also added much new evidence and argument supporting the contention that some of the better counterfeits were made by someone who worked for the Mint or for a legitimate token/medal manufacturer. My contribution was to revise and update much of the material originally presented in my book, adding a lot of new research about the origins and identities of the counterfeiters. Probably my most startling new discovery was previously unpublished evidence that Brigham Young and several other Mormon leaders had been charged with counterfeiting, an accusation which forced the Mormons to leave Illinois and move west much earlier than they had planned. This move led to the discovery of gold, the Great Gold Rush, and accelerated the settlement of the West.

This paper is included in the hardcover book published by the ANS on the proceedings of the COAC titled: **Circulating Counterfeits of the Americas**. Edited by John Kleeberg, it contains several other excellent articles on the subject of counterfeiting in early America.

So ends the bogus half "news update". I have been keeping detailed notes and photographs, where possible, of all of the new varieties discovered since the publication of the book, and encourage those of you who think you may have a UP (unpublished variety) to contact me by e-mail at davig1@ix.netcom.com. If there seems to be enough interest and support, I will make every effort to issue, in some shape or form, an updated variety identification manual. I thank those of you who supported the original publication (I still have some copies left!), and those who continue to share their new discoveries with me. It has been an interesting journey, one in which I have learned a lot, and hopefully contributed something to the pool of knowledge that we who are fascinated by coins and their history can all share and enjoy.

1829 8/O

Cataloging Your Collection

Stephen R. Turns

The creation of a photographic catalog solves the problem of how to enjoy a collection when it is securely locked in a bank vault. The Capped Bust Half Dollar Notebook shown in Figure 1 is an example of such a catalog. Modern digital cameras with multi-megapixel resolution, personal computers with storage capacities measured in gigabytes, and inexpensive inkjet color printers capable of producing prints indistinguishable from those made with conventional photographic techniques combine to allow non-experts to produce very satisfying photographic catalogs of their collections with relatively modest costs.

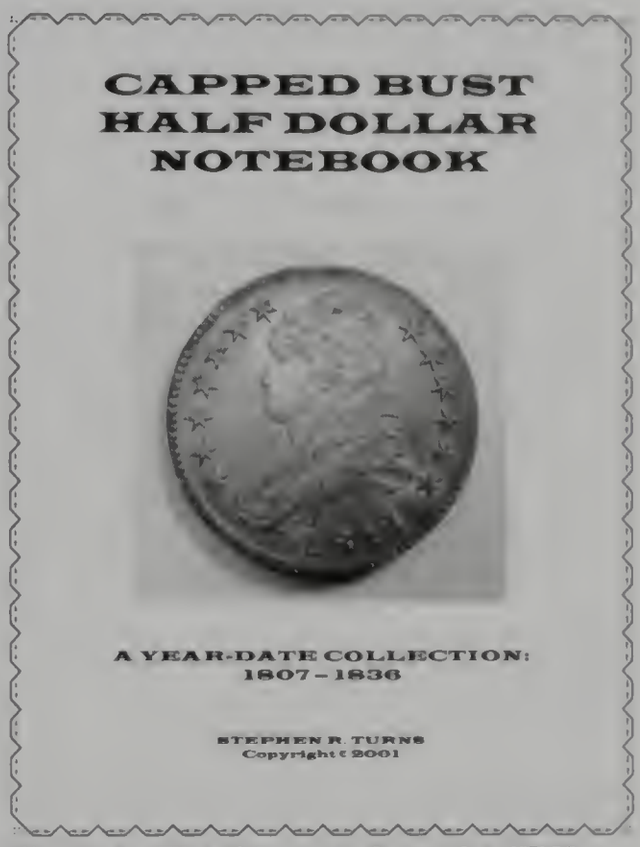
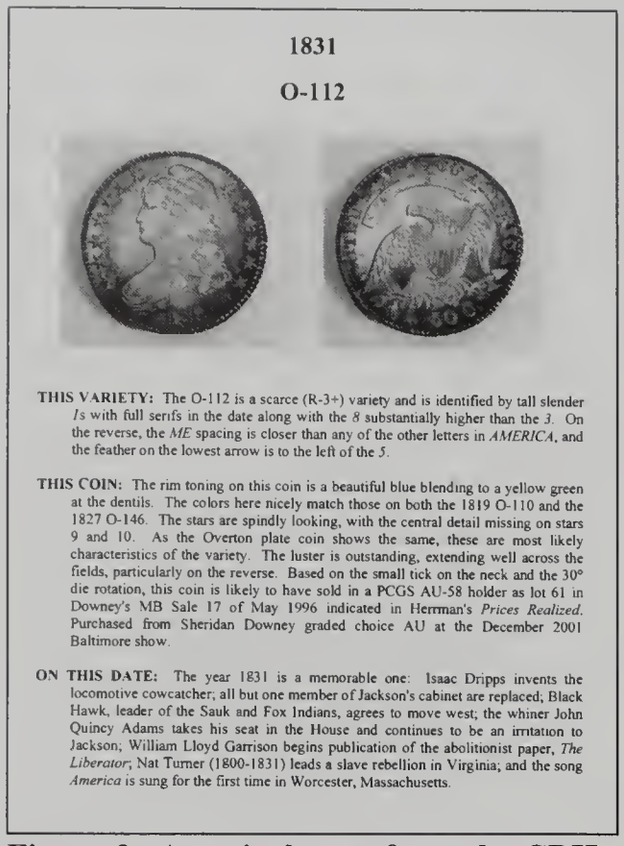


Figure 1. The title page from the CBH Notebook.

Although I had an active interest in photography at one time, all of my darkroom equipment has been in boxes since we moved to our current home 22 years ago. New technology, however, has rekindled this interest. The ever-increasing quality of digital cameras along with a decrease in prices caused me to rethink my stodgy purist views about photography and give the new technology a try. No processing mess and fuss combined with nearly instantaneous feedback have hooked me on digital imaging. So in addition to experiencing the joy of the hunt in coin collecting, I now enjoy trying to capture the particular characteristics and beauty of each purchase with a digital image. This new aspect of forming a collection adds much joy to the hobby, as well as solving the bank-vault-storage versus home-viewing dilemma. I have also discovered that digital macro-photography is better than the loupe-assisted eye at seeing detail and defects. The right lighting can make those hidden hairlines jump out.

Capped Bust Half Dollar Notebook

I have eclectic collecting interests and have started photographic catalogs for four different collections, each with a slightly different format and flavor. Of interest here is the notebook cataloging my not-yet-finished year-date collection of Capped Bust half dollars (Figure 1). The format is not particularly original, looking much like a page from Overton's half dollar [1] or Bower's [2] dollar books: The date and the Overton variety attribution are at the top of the page above side-by-side obverse and reverse images of each year-date coin. Below the images is the text. A typical page is illustrated in Figure 2. Each page is a separate



1831

O-112

THIS VARIETY: The O-112 is a scarce (R-3+) variety and is identified by tall slender *1s* with full serifs in the date along with the *8* substantially higher than the *3*. On the reverse, the *ME* spacing is closer than any of the other letters in *AMERICA*, and the feather on the lowest arrow is to the left of the *5*.

THIS COIN: The rim toning on this coin is a beautiful blue blending to a yellow green at the dentils. The colors here nicely match those on both the 1819 O-110 and the 1827 O-146. The stars are spindly looking, with the central detail missing on stars 9 and 10. As the Overton plate coin shows the same, these are most likely characteristics of the variety. The luster is outstanding, extending well across the fields, particularly on the reverse. Based on the small tick on the neck and the 30° die rotation, this coin is likely to have sold in a PCGS AU-58 holder as lot 61 in Downey's MB Sale 17 of May 1996 indicated in Herrman's *Prices Realized*. Purchased from Sheridan Downey graded choice AU at the December 2001 Baltimore show.

ON THIS DATE: The year 1831 is a memorable one: Isaac Dripps invents the locomotive cowcatcher; all but one member of Jackson's cabinet are replaced; Black Hawk, leader of the Sauk and Fox Indians, agrees to move west; the whiner John Quincy Adams takes his seat in the House and continues to be an irritation to Jackson; William Lloyd Garrison begins publication of the abolitionist paper, *The Liberator*; Nat Turner (1800-1831) leads a slave rebellion in Virginia; and the song *America* is sung for the first time in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Figure 2. A typical page from the CBH Notebook.

Microsoft Word document in which the JPEG-format coin images from the camera are inserted. The images are cropped, sized, and adjusted for final brightness and contrast all within the Word application. For more control, the images might be doctored in PhotoShop, or other graphics software, and then imported to Word, or a similar application; however, I obtain sufficiently satisfying results with this simple approach. The coin images typically appear magnified about 1.6 times on the printed page. This size fits the page nicely, allows details to be seen easily, and yet is not too large to overemphasize any small defects.

I find the creation of the text that goes along with each coin to be equally satisfying to creating an accurate and pleasing image. The text is the place to express your creativity and individuality. It is the place to personalize your collection - your coins, your words.

For the CBH Notebook, I use three headings: "This Variety," "This Coin'" and "On This Date." Under the first heading, I briefly discuss the distinguishing features of the variety using information from Overton [1] or from Peterson's excellent new book [3]. Under the second heading, I write an auction-catalog-like description of the coin. Here is the place to discuss the beauty of the toning, the sharpness of the strike, the quality of the luster, the provenance, and any other specific attributes, both good and bad, of the coin. I also enjoy justifying my grading of the coin in this section. The third heading, "On This Date," links the coin to the history of the year. Again, this idea is not original: Bowers [2], Peterson [3], Souders [4], and others [5], all add a bit of year-by-year history in their books; however, my interest in coin collecting goes hand in hand with my interest in the history of the United States, so this is a natural choice as well. I try to find historical tidbits that particularly interest me. Robert Remini's three-volume biography of Andrew Jackson [6] provides an easy-to-read perspective of the times in which bust coinage was minted and circulated. A brief history of every year from 1606-1992 is compiled in Schlesinger's *The Almanac of American History* [7]. This is a usual starting point for historical bits for each year.

Table 1
Hardware Used to Create CBH Notebook

Item	Description
Digital Camera	Nikon Coolpix 880 (3.34 Megapixels)
Camera Tripod	Goldcrest 679L (Pan head)
Computer	Gateway Solo 9150LS (128 MB RAM, 6.4 GB HD)
Inkjet Color Printer	Epson Stylus Color 740 (360, 720, & 1440 dpi)
20 W Halogen Lamp	Caldera Task Lamp (Adjustable neck & head)
100 W Incandescent Lamp	Adjustable neck & head
Inkjet Paper	Hewlett Packard HP Bright White

Hardware and Methods

Table 1 lists the particular equipment used to create the CBH Notebook. The only items purchased specifically with coin photography in mind were the camera and the

bright white paper. My criteria for the camera were sufficiently high resolution and macro-photography capability. The 3.34-megapixel resolution of the Nikon offers more than enough resolution to produce high-quality images of coins filling an 8-1/2 by 11 inch page. Because of storage limitations, I do not even use the highest possible resolution. The "fine" setting that I do use records 1024 by 768 pixel images that require nominally 1 MB of storage. Not recognized at the time of purchase was the importance of color balance control. Since I like attractively toned coins, obtaining proper color balance when using artificial lighting is very important. Using the "incandescent" setting usually provides natural-looking colors when coins are photographed with the combined halogen and standard incandescent lights (Table 1). Another essential feature is the ability to override, or adjust, the auto-exposure mechanism of the camera. Since many coins are quite bright, the automatic system underestimates the correct exposure. An exposure adjustment of +0.7 to +1.3 stops provides good results in most circumstances. Regardless of what particular compensation is required, having this capability is essential. Adjusting the image brightness with software during image processing does not produce the same final quality image as getting things right with the camera. I have never been able to adjust an image that was obtained using automatic exposure and the standard daylight color balance to look like one that was obtained with proper exposure compensation and incandescent color balance.

To photograph a coin, I place it on a white sheet of paper. The coin is tilted by placing a piece of soft plastic cut from a PCGS insert under the coin near the bottom. The plastic is cut small enough (~3/32 thick by ~3/8 inch long) so as not to protrude from the edge of the coin, yet produce the correct tilt. The camera is placed on the tripod and adjusted so that there is about 3.5 inches of working distance between the camera lens and the coin. This spacing allows the lighting to be adjusted without creating shadows from the camera. The position of the two lamps is adjusted so that both the toning and luster appear to best effect on the viewing screen. Usually, the best results are obtained with the halogen lamp coming from roughly the 12 o'clock position, while the incandescent lamp illuminates the area around the bottom, with the light incoming at about 4 o'clock. The best positions are unique to each coin and some fiddling is always required. Two or three shots may be taken with slightly different lamp positions for coins with hard-to-photograph toning. The Nikon camera allows easy downloading of images to the computer using the USB port. Different camera manufacturers employ different methods to transfer images. How a camera will interface with your computer should be considered when purchasing a camera.

After selecting an image, pasting it into a Word document, and creating the text, the page is printed on bright white inkjet paper with the printer set to 720 dots per inch (dpi) photo quality resolution. I find that printing at the highest resolution available (1440 dpi) is not worth the extra time required to print the page. A typical page prints in somewhat more than three minutes. All images and notebook pages are archived on 120 MB SuperDisk(tm) diskettes. Equivalent alternatives are Zip disks and CDs. The finished pages are kept in Oxford Easy Lock(tm) Report Covers. These easy-to-use covers are quite attractive and can hold up to 50 sheets.

Summary

Creating a personalized photographic catalog of your collection allows you to enjoy your collection at home while the actual coins are secure in a bank vault. Furthermore, the process of creating such a catalog provides extra enjoyment of the hobby. Once the initial investment is made in hardware, the cost of making hundreds of images is quite small. Cataloging a collection is a challenging and creative endeavor. I am always learning about new ways to obtain better images, about the details of the coins cataloged, and about the history of the United States during the interesting period from 1807 through 1836.

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Capped Bust Half Dollar Dentil Anomalies

David Finkelstein

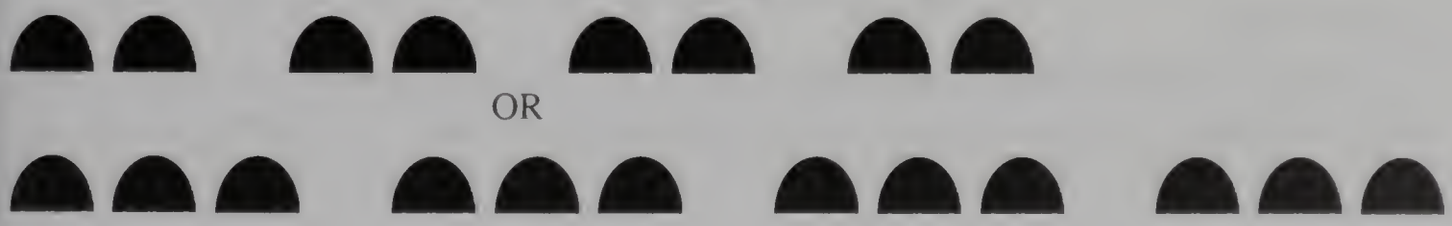
Al Overton referred to the beaded-like circumference of the obverse and reverse of Bust Half Dollars as *milling* or *segments*. Today, these devices are known as *dentils*. Overton's die descriptions identified the most visible dentil irregularities - half, double, and triple dentils. This article explores these irregularities from most obvious to least obvious, and attempts to hypothesize how these anomalies were created.

When & How Were Dentils Created

First, a discussion of when and how dentils were added to the dies is required. It has been proven that dentils were added to the working die, and not the master die or the hub. Had the dentils been added to the master die, all hubs created from that master die, and all working dies created from those hubs would have the same dentil count. Had the dentils been added to the hub, there would have been many working dies with the same dentil count.

The combined research of Dr. Ivan Leaman, Donald Gunnet and Bradley Karoleff has identified that the first obverse master die for Capped Bust Half Dollars was created in 1807. This master die created the first hub that was used to produce all working dies for 1807 and 1808 dated half dollars. The four obverse dies for the 1807 Capped Bust obverses have 141, 142, 152 and 145 dentils[1]. Since each different obverse die has a different dentil count, the dentils could not have been added to the master die or the hub, therefore the dentils had to have been added to the working die.

Dentils are of uniform height and width. In my opinion, dentils were hand engraved or punched into the working die, one dentil at a time. Had there been an engraving or punching device (e.g., similar to a gang-punch) that added multiple dentils at once, there would be physical evidence on the coins identifying a repeating dentil pattern or dentil spacing. The dentils would look something like (slightly exaggerated for affect):



In all my research of counting and studying dentils on the obverses and reverses of Capped Bust Half Dollars, I have not yet seen any such repeating patterns.

Had this gang-punch like device been used, such that the first dentil of the device overlapped

the last dentil added to the die (so the dentils could be aligned and evenly spaced), all working dies would have the same dentil counts. This is certainly not the case from 1807 though 1817, since years like 1808 have obverse dentil counts ranging from 124 to 154[1].

You would also see frequent repunching of where the first dentil of the device overlapped the last dentil added to the die. For example:

Since no evidence has ever been published to suggest that a gang-punch like device was used, I am highly confident that dentils were added to the working die one at a time.

Triple Dentils

Overton noted triple dentils for 1817 Obverse 7 (O-110), 1818 Reverse C (O-103, O-104 and O-105) and 1818 Reverse D (O-106 and O-110). Check out 1810 Reverse G (O-107). There's an undocumented triple dentil above the D in UNITED. Also, check out 1819 Reverse I (O-111). This one has an undocumented triple dentil below 50. There are others.

Although triple dentils are not common, they are also not rare. A triple dentil basically appears like this:

If the middle dentil of the triple dentil were removed, the gap would be too noticeable to the naked eye and look something like:

In my opinion, the die engraver created the triple dentil to camouflage the huge and ugly gap between the two dentils. An added dentil was better than a huge and visible gap. I believe that the middle dentil of the triple dentil is the last dentil added to the working die!

Double Dentils

The description for 1819 Reverse A (O-101) notes a *"solid twin segment below 50"*. I will refer to this irregularity as a double dentil. Double dentils also occur on 1811 Reverse A (O-101) and 1817 Reverse G (O-110). There are others.

Note: I find it interesting that 1817 O-110 has a triple dentil on the obverse and a double dentil on the reverse!

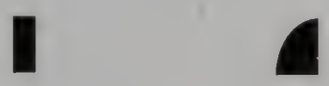
A double dentil basically appears like this:

In my opinion, if one dentil of the double dentils were removed, the gap would be too noticeable to the naked eye, and look something like:

I also believe that one of the dentils in the double dentil pair is the first dentil added to the working die and the other dentil in the pair is the last dentil added to the working die. Think about it. In an attempt to narrow the gap between the two dentils, a dentil was added, but blended in with one of the other dentils already on the working die.

Half Dentil

So far, I have only found half of a dentil on two dies; 1812 Reverse C (O-104) and 1812 Reverse D (O-105). Although Overton documented 1812 Reverse D with a double dentil, it is clearly half a dentil. The half a dentil looks more like a rectangle and does not appear to have the shape of half of a dentil.



Like this Not like this

As with double and triple dentils, the half dentil was added by the engraver to cover up what he though was too large of a space between the first and last dentils on the working die.

Conclusion

The last dentil that was added to the working die sometimes created either a double dentil, triple dentil or half dentil. It was added to cover up the void between the first and last dentils added to the working die.

Adding 100 to 150 dentils individually by hand on one die takes patience and time; probably too much time to justify discarding a die because two or three dentils are irregularly spaced (not to mention the expense of the die steel). As a result, the engraver left his unique mark on the coins that we now study approximately 200 years later.

We will never know for sure how these anomalies were created. We gather evidence from the coins, and develop theories. Over time, some theories are disproved, modified or hold their own. Only time will tell.

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SCOT/REICH/KNEASS GOLD: Research on Variety, Rarity & Availability

Ken Cable-Camilleis

INTRODUCTION: A Historical Perspective

It seems that an area little discussed is that of early U.S. gold. This is due in large part to the fact that such coins are relatively rare, especially when compared with other early coin series such as Capped Bust silver coins (of which the half dollar appears *ubiquitous* in comparison), large cents and half cents. Beginning in 1795, gold coins designed by Robert Scot were minted in $5 and $10 denominations, and $2.50 issues beginning in 1796. After 1804, gold coin production during the next generation was sporadic and mainly confined to the $5 coins. I have taken a keen interest in certain early gold issues, and have presently focused on the Capped Head To Left (CHTL) quarter eagles of 1821-27 and 1829-34, and the Classic Head gold coins of 1834-39. The CHTL half eagles of 1813-34 have also seen some personal attention, although most dates after 1820 are seldom encountered.

The historical, as well as commercial, importance of the early U.S. gold coins (1795-1839) that exist today cannot be understated. In 1834, under the regime of Andrew Jackson, the nation's economy was changing rapidly and approaching a severe depression which would last nearly ten years. Jackson had launched a campaign against the Federal banking system, as he was a proponent of "hard money" doctrines. To create a hard-money economy there had to be more gold product available. Hence, gold coins were mass-produced in the hundreds of thousands, beginning in mid-1834, after the passing of a Congressional Act reducing standard gold coin weight. Such reduction would better accommodate this "new economy" by creating a higher per capita volume of circulating gold. By 1836 Congress would pass Jackson's executive order (the *Specie Circular*) to facilitate the purchase of land, not on credit, but solely with specie (gold and silver coin). This further increased the demand for fluid gold. Bank notes, copper coins and tokens were not legal tender in the 1830s.

Prior to 1834, whatever commercial need there was for gold was satisfied by the abundance of foreign (British, Spanish, Mexican, Portuguese, etc.) legal tender gold plus the pool of remaining gold bullion reserves and gold coins already struck by the U.S. Mint. There was very little demand for the $2.50 coin (the quarter eagle), therefore the annual mintages of this denomination never topped 7,000, and in certain years, the output was in the hundreds! Additionally, no quarter eagles were produced from 1809 through 1820 and a few other years. Added to this scarcity, a very small percentage of these miniscule original mintages are extant today because of mass melting to provide some of the additional gold with which to make 1834 and later gold coins. As the weight of the pre-1834 coins was greater, there was no commercial advantage to keeping the older coins circulating since their bullion value was about 5% greater than their face value.

This is a two-part article, the first of which addresses the CHTL quarter eagles and the second the Classic Head quarter eagles and half eagles. At this time there will be no discussion on pre-1834 half eagles, as I have mainly studied late-date pieces and have compiled too little data for a meaningful study, however I did have the opportunity to passively examine 21 CHTL half eagles at a Harry Bass auction, including two mind-blowing 1829s. There is also no discussion of quarter eagles dated 1808 and earlier, although I have examined several such pieces over the last seven years with peripheral interest in learning more about them. Meanwhile, any information related to CHTL quarter eagles, date-specific or general, would be welcome.

PART I - Capped Head To Left Quarter Eagles, 1821-34

The CHTL quarter eagle series is recognized by two distinct subtypes, the *Large Size* originally designed by John Reich in 1808 with the Capped Bust design (a one-year type) and resumed by Robert Scot in 1821, and the *Reduced Size* modified by William Kneass in 1829. Actually, besides the more artistic nature of the devices on the 1829-34 coins, the primary defining features are the large dentils on the Reich CHTLs versus the high rims and beaded borders of the Kneass coins; the former struck in an open collar and the latter in a closed collar. I have studied this series since 1994. However, analyzing CHTLs is not like analyzing Capped Bust halves, where there are so many varieties, including many yet to be discovered, and readily available, up-to-date literature on every known variety, including that prepared by JRCS members. Unlike my data gathered on Bust halves and quarters, the dearth of available CHTLs and related research material on today's market has made my work come exclusively from the coins themselves.

One particular specimen that has piqued my curiosity - the "crown jewel" of my collection - is an 1833 quarter eagle, NGC certified AU58. I had upgraded from an 1832 in XF-40. The luster on both sides is deep mirror rather than cartwheel, and the field abrasions are especially magnified by the sharp contrast; these are diagnostics of mishandled proofs as well as prooflike business strike coins. The reflectivity is noticeable inside the shield stripes as well as the fields. I don't believe this is an impaired proof, although it is slightly possible given my observations on late-date CHTLs in addition to Breen's. This 1833 actually has mint state details, but is undoubtedly net-graded because of numerous contact marks, obverse field abrasions and weakness of certain detail. It is a late die state - the reverse device is poorly struck at several points: the dexter wing where it borders the shield and the area of the shield nearest this wing; the upper middle edge of the shield; and throughout the vertical stripes. The reverse die also appears to have attained wear or damage focally around the "compass point", as there is a minute arc-shaped indenture extending from the base of the eagle's neck through the upper three horizontal bars on the shield (**Note 1**). No other CHTL examined by me under high magnification has this concavity, and certainly not my previous 1832 CHTL, which had a stronger overall strike. On the 1833 there is also a small planchet chip beneath and to the right of the "U" in UNITED. I am quite curious about each of these features I describe.

Given that so few CHTLs were struck per year, it is unlikely that there were any die changes within a date, or many changes across the years 1821-27 or 1830-33, other than those observed and recorded by Walter Breen (**Ref. a**). The reverse CHTL die was reengraved in 1830, and distinguishing characteristics include slightly larger lettering and resultant character placement and reshaping of device features such as leaves. Especially noteworthy is the third arrow on the 1829 pointing almost left of "C" in AMERICA whereas on the 1830-33s it points at "C" and rests closer to "A". This can be clearly observed by comparing the 1829 plate with the 1830 plate in the Harry W. Bass Part II catalog (Lots 270 & 271) **(b)** or any source that has an 1829 and an 1830-33 CHTL together. Also, there was a recutting of the lettering in 1830 which resulted in clear doubling of the left prong of the letter "U" in UNITED and a portion of the "I" in AMERICA protruding from its base; the serifs of the "U" are joined and the upper serif of the "I" is extended as a result of the repunchings. Breen does not note the doubling of the "I", which I've observed on every 1830-33 CHTL examined. I surmise that all letters of UNITED STATES OF AMERICA were recut at some point during 1830-34 (perhaps at the beginning of the reverse die rework in 1830) **(2)**. I am curious as to whether the reverse die change occurred at the *beginning* of 1830 (my belief), or if there exist 1830 CHTLs with the 1829 reverse. A few other subtleties I've noted are a barely perceptible variation in the small olive bud among the larger leaves on one 1832 (observable under a 17x loupe) and on the 1833s the last "S" in STATES appears ever so slightly left of the position relative to the "S" in PLURIBUS. Breen notes the changes to the *obverse* device in 1832, and I independently observed the position of the low curl relative to the third numeral ("3") in the date on the 1832-33 pieces which reflect this modification.

I have noted more Large Size CHTLs of 1821-27 with sharper strikes than Reduced Sizes. The one 1826 I've seen is very well struck. However, I have seen more advanced die state Large Size specimens, including 1821 and 1825 pieces struck from cracked dies and some 1824s with very mushy reverse details. Although I have examined only 57 CHTLs since beginning this study (see Table I), I have observed prooflike characteristics in over 61% (35/57) of this sample, and this ratio is considerably higher in the 1829-33 issues. Most of these CHTLs were certified by PCGS or NGC, and in more recent times, a couple by other grading services. My 1832 was slabbed by ANACS and net-graded. If the specimen was raw, I recorded it as a prooflike if I felt it met that designation. One raw 1831 was advertised as a proof, and the surfaces appeared so, however, it was weakly struck in areas of the reverse device **(3)**. Given the low survival rate of CHTLs, the high ratio of prooflikes *personally* recorded, as well as Breen's findings, raises the conjecture that these were immediately recognized as special (perhaps presentation or even specimen strikes) and thus escaped the melting pots of 1834.

The analysis I have done leads me to believe that CHTL quarter eagles may be scarcer than thought ten or even five years ago. At mid-year 2000, PCGS and NGC combined have certified only 613 CHTLs *in all grades* (see Table II), and that does not take into account the probability of duplicate tabulation of one coin perhaps resubmitted in hopes of a higher grade **(c,d)**. It is also true that some CHTLs are damaged to the point that they would not be graded by PCGS or NGC, however, I believe the pool of PCGS/ NGC specimens represents about

500 different coins, and I would estimate the total number of CHTL quarter eagle survivors to be somewhere in the 1000-1500 range (from a recorded original mintage of 42,065) **(e)**. Regarding currently estimated survivors of each date, that's a tough call, especially considering the possibility that mintages recorded for a given year may include coins dated the previous year **(4)**. Breen mentions *delivery* dates, but these are not conclusive of the dates on the coins delivered.

It seems that most of today's CHTLs have survived with little actual *wear*. Undoubtedly, in its day, "circulation" of CHTLs was limited to expensive and important transactions, so it stands to reason that they did not circulate much, especially the later dates. That is, the closer the date is to 1834, the less use the CHTL would likely have received. I am presently seeking literature (post-Breen) about this short series, especially that which addresses known varieties or, more likely, die *states*, estimated survival data including amount believed exported and lost overseas, and estimated number of extant proofs and prooflike specimens (including uncertified pieces). The preponderance of prooflike CHTLs may be germane to the primary reason for the existence of even the few hundred CHTL quarter eagles that are on today's market or in private hands: that most of those remaining may not have been intended for general circulation. As Breen suggests, perhaps a significant number of proof CHTLs were placed in the channels of commerce during the "Hard Times" of the late 1830s and early 1840s. Regarding the very rare and coveted 1834 CHTL, the PCGS/NGC reports appear to refute Breen's theory that most known examples are proofs, as no 1834 proofs had been certified as of June 30, 2000 from a graded sample of 17 pieces. However, herein lies the subjectivity of the distinction between *prooflikes* and actual early proofs.

It has been quite a challenge for me to pursue the study of CHTL quarter eagles these past seven years. It has not been easy sniffing out CHTLs for inspection at coin shows amongst so much common material. I've examined others through mail order and, very occasionally, a local dealer outlet. The Internet has also been a useful resource in locating CHTLs. The most CHTLs I examined at one setting was seven; this was at Part II of the Harry W. Bass sale in October 1999, conducted by Bowers and Merena. This auction contained one each of the 1824, 1825, 1826, 1829, 1830, 1831 and 1833 CHTL. These coins were awesome. Two of them, the 1831 and 1833, were slabbed MS-65 and the 1829 was MS-64. The 1833 was noticeably soft in some of the areas I've mentioned, although despite the weakness it "may have been a presentation piece". The 1829 and 1831 were a bit weak at the shield border as well, not atypical. And the only 1826 I've ever seen was here. This in my opinion falls into a class by itself for its rarity, and is nearly as tough as the 1834. I tend to agree with Mr. Bowers that, by studying this sole specimen, the 1826 is *not* a "6/5" but a repunched "6" **(5)**. The Bass sale is the only major auction I have ever attended which contained gold coins, and it provided an excellent self-teaching stimulus by giving me the opportunity to compare multiple CHTLs side by side.

Over the years, I have not yet encountered any unslabbed CHTLs that I do not believe authentic, however, a fair number of the raw CHTLs I've seen were impaired by having been whizzed, polished, bent or (sigh!) used for jewelry, and would not likely be graded by a

leading third-party grading service. It is possible that this sample of 57 CHTLs contains duplicate analyses of the same coin, but I believe the "true" number examined to be at least 50.

To date the aforementioned 1833 is the only CHTL I own, but I have enjoyed just being a "looker" and educating myself through these round yellow views of Liberty with her capped head and that eagle with the overhanging banner saying, *"Out of many, one."* I'm trying to find out how "many", and I'd welcome feedback on my theory that most of today's CHTL survivors were special from the day they were coined. Of course, since over 90% of the original mintage of CHTLs was destroyed more than 150 years ago, no one will ever know the true non-prooflike statistics - but it's interesting to speculate.

TABLE I

CAPPED HEAD TO LEFT QUARTER EAGLES
DATA COMPILED ON PIECES EXAMINED

LARGE SIZE (REICH-SCOT/OPEN-COLLAR)

Date	Normal	Semi-PL	Prooflike	Cert Proof	Total
1821	4	1	2	0	7
1824	3	1	0	0	4
1825	5 **(6)**	2	1	0	8
1826	0	0	1	0	1
1827	1	1	0	0	2

REDUCED SIZE (KNEASS/CLOSED-COLLAR)

Date	Normal	Semi-PL	Prooflike	Cert Proof	Total
1829	4	1	1	0	6
1830	1 **(6)**	4	3	0	8
1831	1	2	7 **(7)**	0 **(7)**	10
1832	1 **(6)**	2	3	0	6
1833	2 **(6)**	1	2	0	5
1834	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	**22**	**15**	**20**	**0**	**57**

TABLE II

CAPPED HEAD TO LEFT QUARTER EAGLES
PCGS & NGC POPULATIONS AS OF JUNE 30, 2000

LARGE SIZE

Date	PCGS	NGC	Total
1821	15	13	28 **(8)**
1824	14	15	29
1825	49	30	79
1826	15	8	23
1827	26	20	46

REDUCED SIZE

Date	PCGS	NGC	Total
1829	40	34	74
1830	63	42	105
1831	47	52	99 **(8)**
1832	38	27	65
1833	29	19	48 **(8)**
1834	9	8	17

Total CHTLs graded by PCGS and NGC in all grades = 613 **(9)**

NOTES:

(1) The compass point is designated by a pinhead-small circular area at the centers of many types of antebellum coins. Beginning around 1836, coins were produced from *hubbed dies*, and the hub was marked so that when the coin was struck from the die, a tiny circular indentation would appear. In some cases the mark is obtrusive enough at 10x to define a variety referred to as the "broken stripe" **(f)**. However, as CHTLs predate hubbing of complete dies, the concavity observed on the 1833 quarter eagle, which covers a wider range of the coin's central area than hubbed die anomalies, was probably caused by some other type of "dead-center" reverse die defect for which temporary lack of quality control did not prevent the end result.

(2) Using the loupe some letter doubling is evident on my 1833 CHTL. Besides on the letter "I" in AMERICA, this is especially clear at the base of the "R". Upon close inspection, retooling around most letters, as well as the second "3" in the date, are evident.

(3) Early proof coins may not be fully struck. I've examined certified and *certifiable* proof silver coins of 1821-52 with softer details than business strikes of the same year. I have not yet eyeballed any certified proof gold coins of this era.

(4) In the early days of United States coinage, it was common practice to reuse functional coin dies of prior years. Whether this happened with CHTL issues I am not aware. Shortly after Robert Maskell Patterson took over as Director of the Mint in 1835, he issued an edict that all coins must be dated the year in which they are coined. This became effective either with the 1836 or 1837 U.S. coinage of all denominations.

(5) Contrast the so-called "1826/5" with the 1824/1. Unlike the 1824, which has a tiny splinter protruding from the upper part of the "4" (this is the "1" of the underdate), the 1826 from the Bass auction shows no flat or squared piece under the "6" which would be the bar at the top of a "5".

(6) Includes raw specimens with damaged or altered surfaces.

(7) One raw specimen was marketed as a proof.

(8) Includes proofs.

(9) May include duplicate submissions of same coin.

REFERENCES:

(a) Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins, 1988.
(b) Bowers and Merena, Inc./Harry W. Bass, Jr. Auction Catalog, October 2-4, 1999.
(c) PCGS Population Report, July 2000.
(d) NGC Census Report, July 2000.
(e) A Guide Book of U.S. Coins, R. S. Yeoman, 50th Edition, 1997.
(f) Gobrecht Journal, Issue #73, November 1998.

(Part II will appear in a future issue of the JRCS Journal.)

STANLEY KUBACKI

June 20, 1952 - March 20, 2001

Stephen A. Crain

On March 20, 2001, I lost a good friend, the JRCS lost a dynamic member, and the hobby lost a brilliant and dedicated researcher and collector. That was the day that Stan Kubacki lost his battle with cancer.

I had known Stan for several years before I actually had the privilege of meeting him. As with many numismatic acquaintances, Stan and I had communicated via telephone, mail, and occasionally via email, endlessly discussing the intricacies of die marriages and remarriages within the Capped Bust Half Dime series. But one thousand miles and busy work schedules kept us from meeting until the summer of 1999 when Stan arranged to visit the coast of Maine on the return leg of a trip to visit his daughter on Cape Cod. Imagine my surprise when "Willie Nelson" appeared on my doorstep, replete with beard, pony tail and his trademark blue jeans. It seems that Stan was sort of a hold-over from the sixties generation, but his outward appearance belied the remarkable mind that characterized this interesting and multifaceted man. When dealing with Stan, it was easy to look beyond the exterior, and focus on the subject at hand, which invariably involved the early Federal coinage.

Stan was a graduate of the University of Michigan, with a degree in nuclear engineering. He was a senior certified welding inspector, and was an expert in gamma ray, x-ray, and eddy current non-destructive testing procedures. He approached numismatics with the same energy and purpose that he brought to all of his many talents and interests. Stan's other hobbies included bird watching, and a classic 1954 Packard.

Stan was married for twenty-seven years to his wife Sue, who characterized Stan as "the most intelligent man I have ever known in my life". She claimed that Stan had married her for her common sense, a commodity of which he was sometimes good naturedly accused of having a short supply. They had four children, Tamara, Sarah, Stefan, and Andrew. The boys were following in their father's footsteps, actively participating in the "family" collection. On countless occasions, when considering a prospective new addition to his early dime collection, I can recall Stan saying "Well, I will have to discuss it with the boys first".

Stan had a remarkable, almost uncanny, ability to locate scarce and rare die marriages on a bourse floor, in all of the early bust series. Indeed, it was Stan who finally located the second, confirming example of the 1833 V10 (LM-5) after this marriage had enjoyed "unique" status for over twelve years. Through the years, Stan managed to "cherry" nice, collectible examples of the 1800 V4 (LM-4), 1832 V14 (LM-9), and even the 1830 V14 (LM-11), all of which he generously offered to me. But it is more than his generosity with cherry-picked rarities that I shall remember about Stan. It was his willingness to share his vast accumulated knowledge, and his love of life, that shall remain as his enduring legacy. He will be dearly missed, and not soon forgotten.

JOHN REICH COLLECTORS SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 400
MANCHESTER, MI 48158

STATEMENT OF
CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR
18 MONTH PERIOD ENDING 30-Sep-2001

CASH POSITION ON 15-Apr-2000

CHECKING ACCT	$6,116.63
LIFE MEMB'SP ACC'T	$9,125.00
UNPAID CHECK #317	($75.20)
ON HAND	$485.00
TOTAL	**$15,651.43**

INCOME

BACK ISSUES & DONATIONS	$1,709.50
INTEREST	$394.15
DUES	$5,765.00
LIFE MEMBERSHIP	$2,625.00
TOTAL INCOME	**$10,493.65**

EXPENSES

SUPPLIES	$0.00
JOURNAL	$8,227.85
POSTAGE	$2,292.91
MISCELLANEOUS	$354.16
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$10,874.92**

CASH POSITION ON 30-Sep-2001

CHECKING ACCT	$5,795.96
LIFE MEMB'SP ACC'T	$11,750.00
OUTSTANDING CHECKS #342, 3	($3,025.80)
DEPOSIT ON HAND	$750.00
BALANCE	**$15,270.16**

Russell J. Logan, Treasurer

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